

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 00578 210814Z  
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13  
DHA-02 TRSE-00 /070 W  
-----210817Z 124550 /13

P R 210754Z JAN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1663  
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, KS  
SUBJECT: YANG IL-TONG MEETS PRESS, 1/14/77

REF: SEOUL 10206 (DTG 280832Z DEC 76)

SUMMARY: PRESS CONFERENCE OF MINOR OPPOSITION PARTY LEADER YANG (DUP) WENT LARGELY UNREPORTED IN KOREAN PRESS BECAUSE OF FRANKNESS OF HIS COMMENTS. END SUMMARY

1. YANG IL-TONG, LEADER OF DEMOCRATIC UNIFICATION PARTY (DUP) KOREA'S SECOND (AND MINOR) OPPOSITION PARTY, MET PRESS JANUARY 14 FOR NEW YEAR'S PRESS CONFERENCE. EVENT WAS REPORTED ONLY SKETCHILY IN ROK PRESS BECAUSE MUCH OF WHAT YANG SAID WAS TOO CRITICAL OF ROKG.

2. FIRST PORTION OF HIS CONFERENCE, AS REFLECTED IN WRITTEN TEXT EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED, DEALT WITH "DISCORD" BETWEEN ROK AND U.S. YANG APPEALED TO ROKG TO REALIZE THAT TENSION BETWEEN COUNTRIES IS CAUSED BY "OUR (ROK)

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PAGE 02 SEOUL 00578 210814Z

GOVERNMENT'S POLICIES OF SUPPRESSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND ITS ANTI-DEMOCRATIC IMPROPRIETIES" AND TO UNDERTAKE "DETAILED CHANGES OF POLICY" IN RESPONSE.

3. IN THE FIVE OTHER SECTIONS OF HIS TALK, YANG (A) URGED REPEAL OF EMERGENCY MEASURES AND RESTORATION OF DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS, (B) ADVOCATED STRENGTHENING OF DIPLOMACY

TOWARD THIRD WORLD (THIS WAS ONLY PART OF CONFERENCE TO APPEAR IN LOCAL PRESS), (C) CALLED FOR NEW NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS UNDER OLD ELECTION LAW (THAT OBTAINING BEFORE OCTOBER 17, 1972), (D) CONDEMNED POLICIES HINDERING FREEDOM OF PRESS, AND (E) CALLED FOR CHANGES IN ECONOMIC POLICIES TO BENEFIT ALL CITIZENS MORE EVENLY. IN HIS CLOSING REMARKS, YANG STATED THAT "A SITUATION IN WHICH ONE PERSON HOLDS POWER FOREVER CANNOT BE ACCEPTED BY THE CONSCIENCE OF THE PEOPLE."

4. EMBASSY COMMENT: YANG'S STATEMENTS HAVE HAD LITTLE POLITICAL EFFECT, ALTHOUGH AS INDICATED SEPTEL KIM CHI-HA'S MOTHER WAS PICKED UP FOR TWO DAYS QUESTIONING ABOUT DISTRIBUTING IT.

SNEIDER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** OPPOSITION PARTIES, PRESS CONFERENCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977SEOUL00578  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Retention:** 0  
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**Subject:** YANG IL-TONG MEETS PRESS, 1/14/77  
**TAGS:** PINT, PFOR, KS, (YANG IL-TONG)  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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